

~~TOP SECRET~~

THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
WASHINGTON D C. 20301

IDEALIST

HANDLE VIA [REDACTED]
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MEMORANDUM FOR SECRETARY OF THE NAVY

SUBJECT: U-2R Aircraft for the EP-X Test Program

I have directed that the Air Force make available two U-2R aircraft to the Navy for use in the EP-X Ocean Surveillance Test Program. Current plans call for these aircraft to be transferred, on a loan basis, no later than 1 February 1974 and returned no later than 31 July 1977.

The Air Force's ability to make these aircraft available is contingent upon 40 Committee approval to terminate the IDEALIST Program and subsequent consolidation of all U-2R aircraft under centralized management of the Air Force. However, I am confident that these arrangements will result in the Navy being provided suitable aircraft for the EP-X Program and, therefore, am directing that no new U-2R aircraft be procured for this program.

Classified by [REDACTED] 1
EXEMPT FROM GENERAL DECLASSIFICATION SCHEDULE OF
EXECUTIVE ORDER 11652. EXEMPTION CATEGORY Para 5B (2)&(3)
DECLASSIFY ON: Impossible to Determine

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